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SHORT COMMUNICATION

N. E. Vikhrev. ON THE SYNONYMY OF THE PALAEARCTIC SCIOMYZIDAE (DIPTERA). – Far Eastern Entomologist. 2011. N 220: 17-20.

Summary. Two new synonyms of the Palaearctic flies of the family Sciomyzidae are established: *Tetanura pallidiventris* Fallén, 1820 = *Tetanura fallenii* Hendel, 1923, **syn. n.**; *Sciomyza testacea* Macquart, 1835 = *Sciomyza sebezhica* Przhiboro, 2001, **syn. n.**

Key words. Diptera, Sciomyzidae, taxonomy, new synonymy.

Н. Е. Вихрев. К синонимии палеарктических Sciomyzidae (Diptera) // Дальневосточный энтомолог. 2011. N 220. C. 17-20.

Резюме. Для палеарктических двукрылых семейства Sciomyzidae установлена новая синонимия: *Tetanura pallidiventris* Fallén, 1820 = *Tetanura fallenii* Hendel, 1923, **syn. n.**; *Sciomyza testacea* Macquart, 1835 = *Sciomyza sebezhica* Przhiboro, 2001, **syn. n.**

INTRODUCTION

The examination of rich material stored in Zoological Museum of Moscow University (ZMUM) allows clarifying the synonymy of two Palaearctic species of Sciomyzidae.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tetanura pallidiventris Fallén, 1820

Fig. 1

Tetanura pallidiventris Fallén, 1820: 10. Type locality: Esperod (Sweden).

Tetanura fallenii Hendel, 1923: 206. Type locality: “Donau-Auen bei Wien” (Austria); **syn. n.**

MATERIAL. Russia: **Moscow Region**, Dmitrov env., 56.3166°N 37.7594°E, 12-27.VI 2007-2010, 2♂, 13♀ (N. Vikhrev); Golitsyno env., 11-23.VI 1973-1983, 4♂, 4♀ (A. Shatalkin); Izmailovo park, 16.VI 2007, 1♂, 1♀ (A. Ozerov); Naro-Fominsk env., 05.VI 2007, 1♀ (D. Gavryushin); **Novosibirsk Region**, Novosibirsk, Academy town, 54.8°N 83.1°E, 19.VI 2008, 1♀ (O. Kosterin); **Krasnoyarsky Krai**, Krasnoyarsk env., 56°N 92°E, 14-23.VII 2009, 9♀ (K. Tomkovich); **Amur Region**, Zeya env., 53.8°N 127.3°E, 21.VI-11.VII 1981-1982, 35♂, 1♀ (A. Shatalkin, A. Ozerov, M. Krivosheina); **Primorsky Krai**, Kamenushka env., 46.7°N 135.9°E, 13.VI-27.VII 1983-1984, 8♂, 1♀ (A. Shatalkin); **Sakhalin Region**, Kunashir Is., Mendeleev Volcano env., 44.0°N 145.7°E, 17-29.VII 1985, 3♂ (S. Churkin).

DISTRIBUTION. North and Central Europe (Rozkošný, 1987; Vala, 1989), Russia, Japan (Sueyoshi, 2001).

REMARKS. The genus *Tetanura* Fallén, 1820 has several aberrant characters for Sciomyzidae: male gonostyli reduced, female with peculiar flat ovipositor, arista subapical, typical submedian *a*-seta on *f2* absent, only 1 (posterior) notopleural seta present.

Tetanura fallenii was described from a male and female collected in Austria. The type material was not found in Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna and seems to be lost (Rozkošný, 1987), so the diagnostic characters of *T. fallenii* follow from the original description only (Hendel, 1923):

– Body mostly yellow including scutum; anterior cross-vein placed beyond middle of discal cell; live (or fresh) specimens have eyes with median stripe fused with upper one anteriorly *fallenii*

– Body mostly brown, scutum darker; anterior cross-vein placed at middle of discal cell; eyes with median stripe not fused with upper one *pallidiventris*

Rozkošný (1987) and Vala (1989) expressed doubts in the validity of *T. fallenii*. I have found all 85 specimens collected in European Russia, West and East Siberia and in Far East (including the Kuril Islands) conspecific. The male terminalia were examined and found similar. Examined specimens showed significant and continual variations of the characters proposed as diagnostic ones for *T. fallenii*.

Body colour: pleura brown to mostly yellowish, disc of scutum from entirely dark brown to light brown on the center and widely yellow along the edges. Abdomen from yellow to brown.

Wing: anterior crossvein placed from middle to distal third of discal cell, usually slightly beyond middle. Anterior crossvein may be reduced to the point where veins R_{4+5} and M converge. Wing darkening (anterior margin and around crossveins) from hardly distinct to distinct and extensive.

Stripes on the eyes seems to be rather an useless character being absent in the museum material, but nevertheless, from my own experience in field observation of *Tetanura* and mounting fresh specimens I can assert that these stripes look very different depending on the angle of view and may look either fused or not fused.



Fig. 1. *Tetanura pallidiventris* Fallén, female (photo by D. Gavryushin).

In addition a curious variability in chaetotaxy of the scutum is found. Two pairs of posterior *dc* (rarely 1) followed by 3-5 fine setulae in *dc* position, these setulae usually are differently placed on the left and the right sides. Postalar calli with 2 or 1 setae and 1-3 setulae of different length. In slightly less than half of the specimens an additional “wandering” seta is present on left or right side of scutum, it is placed between the posterior

dc and postalar calli but slightly in more anterior position. The basal pair of scutellar setae is sometimes absent.

The variability between specimens collected in the same site and date is similar to that between specimens collected at such distant localities as East Europe, Siberia and Far East. The only geographical difference found was: in the southern localities such as Prymorsky Krai and Kunashir Island the body size is typically 4-4.5 mm; in the northern localities with more continental climate the typical body size is 3-3.5 mm. Therefore *T. fallenii* is considered as a pure synonym of *T. pallidiventris*.

***Sciomyza testacea* Macquart, 1835**

Sciomyza testacea Macquart, 1835: 406. Type locality: North France.

Sciomyza sebezhica Przhiboro, 2001: 184. Type locality: Russia, Pskov Region, Anninskoe Lake; **syn. n.**

MATERIAL. Russia: **Komi Region**, Vorkuta, 67.5°N 64.0°E, 20.VII 2010, 1♂, 4♀ (N.Vikhrev); **Kursk Region**, Streletskaya steppe, 51.6°N 36.10°E, 25.V 2007, 1♀ (A. Ozerov); **Nenets Region**, Naryan-Mar, 67.63°N 53.0°E, 10.VII 2008, 1♂, 1♀ (A. Ozerov).

DISTRIBUTION. North and South Europe, Turkey (Rozkošný, 1987; Vala, 1989).

REMARKS. *Sciomyza sebezhica* was described from the single male holotype, “*imago reared from shore substratum collected 30.IX 1997 in the zone of water line*” (Przhiboro, 2001). Two females reared from the same lake were identified as *S. testacea*. It is not always advisable to describe new species from a single specimen, but let us consider the diagnostic characters offered. “*Diagnosis. A small-sized species with tawny mesonotum, black 3rd antennal segment, mesopleura only with small hairs...*” (Przhiboro, 2001) – this part of the diagnosis completely fits that of *S. testacea*; “*...fore and hind tibiae with only 1 preapical seta. The male terminalia distinctive*” (Przhiboro, 2001) – this part of the diagnosis is discussed below.

1. “*Fore tibiae with only 1 preapical seta*”. The presence of some new structure sometimes unmistakably indicates the new species, but the absence of tibial preapical seta requires examination of the variability on representative series and correlation with other characters. *S. testacea* is an uncommon fly which is not numerous in collections, but even the examination of the few specimens listed above shows that dorsal preapical setae on the fore tibia is a matter of significant variability: whereas the one in more anterior position is always strong, the second seta in more posterior position is variable from as strong as the anterior one to very weak, so the total absence of this seta in some specimen is not surprising at all. Discussing significance of the absence of the second dorsal preapical seta on the fore tibia Przhiboro (2001) apply a double standard. On the one hand, in spite of absence of this seta, he places the specimen into genus *Sciomyza* due to the similarity with *S. testacea*. On the other hand, he regards it as a new species which differs from *S. testacea* due to the absence of the same seta. I can agree with the first solution only.

2. “*Hind tibiae with only 1 preapical seta*”. As for preapical setae on the hind tibia, neither anybody else proposed it as diagnostic character for *Sciomyza*, nor Przhiboro (2001) discussed reliability of this character. I don’t think that this new idea is a good one: in fact *S. simplex* and *S. dryomyzina* usually have two preapical setae present, but 5 of 8 examined specimens of *S. testacea* have only one dorsal preapical on the hind tibia.

3. “*Male terminalia distinctive*”. I don’t think so. The comparison of male terminalia with that of *S. simplex* seems unnecessary, but I can’t find difference between drawing of

terminalia of *S. sebezhica* with that of *S. testacea* (see Vala, 1989), neither I found any indication in the text.

That is why I see no reasons to regard *S. sebezhica* as a valid species.

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